

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Akira FUKUNAGA et al. :
Serial No. NEW : **Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH**
Filed February 24, 2004 : Attorney Docket No. 2004-0173

PLATING APPARATUS AND METHOD OF :
MANAGING PLATING LIQUID COMPOSITION
(Rule 1.53(b) Divisional
of Serial No. 09/994,755,
Filed November 28, 2001)

THE COMPTROLLER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE THE AGENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THE DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 20-0975

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of ☒ the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or ☐ the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. 09/994,755.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, **or**

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

- 1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**
(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and
the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

- a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

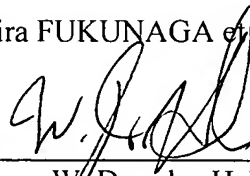
3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
- a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. ☐ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page ,
 - d. ☐ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.
6. ☐ Statement Under 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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February 24, 2004

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: February 24, 2004

ATTY DOCKET NO.
2004-0173SERIAL NO.
NEWAPPLICANT
Akira FUKUNAGA et al.FILING DATE
February 24, 2004

GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS
	AA	4,326,940	04/1982	Eckles	204	232
	AB	5,279,972	01/1994	Heckenburg	436	178
	AC	5,772,889	06/1998	Gjerde	210	635
	AD	4,554,254	11/1985	Krystal	436	86
	AE	6,379,520	04/2002	Kuriyama	205	81
	AF	5,196,096	03/1993	Chang	204	153.1
	AG	6,017,427	01/2000	Yamamoto	204	212
	AH	4,788,700	11/1988	Kurozami	378	44
	AI	4,800,132	01/1989	Grunwald	428	560
	AJ	4,950,504	08/1990	Grunwald	427	242
	AK	6,521,358	02/2003	Tanaka	428	670
	AL	5,296,124	03/1994	Eliash	204	402
	AM	6,151,113	11/2000	O'Donohue	356	338
	AN	5,670,054	09/1997	Kibbet	210	656
	AO	6,229,605	05/2001	Benedict	356	339
	AP	6,362,880	03/2002	Anderson	356	337
	AQ	6,210,571	04/2001	Zambias	210	198.2

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

*	AR	Heberting, "Monitoring Acid Copper Plating Baths", PC FAB 08/1989, pp. 72-84.
	AS	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

* do not receive -